



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
HISASHI MITAMURA : EXAMINER: MACKEY, J. P.
SERIAL NO: 09/684,673 :
FILED: OCTOBER 11, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1722
FOR: TIRE VULCANIZING EQUIPMENT:

96/KW
2/8/03

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AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 17, please replace the paragraph at lines 14-18 as follows:

(2) When the tire mold assembly 1 is stopped, the upper movable plate 9 is lowered to connect the mold connecting device and split die operating device of the upper movable plate 9 to the upper die part of the tire mold assembly 1, and after the vulcanization is ended, the upper die part is opened according to the rise of the upper movable plate 9.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 16.

Please amend the claims as follows: